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Venezuela: Troops Loyal to Perez Take Over Guarenas

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[Text] Caracas, 4 Feb (AFP) -- According to media reports, Guarenas, a bedroom community located approximately 25 km east of Caracas, was taken over by troops loyal to President Carlos Andres Perez early 4 February following rumors of looting.

Calls were issued over television asking people to avoid these excesses and keep calm.

Guarenas began the "Caracazo" -- a name given to the looting and sacking that occurred in February 1989 -- with an official death toll of 276. This incident occurred when President Carlos Andres Perez began his harsh economic program with increases in fuel prices and fares.

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